

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 8-18, 21-47 remain in this application. Claims 1, 18, and 31 have been amended. Claims 6, 7, 19, and 20 have been canceled.

In view of the above amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-9, 14-22, 27-35, 36-42, and 45-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Chein et al (WO00/66636).

According to the Examiner, in Examples J through L of Table I appear to read on claims 9 and 22. According to the Examiner, "Because Chein et al teaches compositions that anticipate applicants invention, said compositions should inherently have a Young's modulus as described in claims 6-7, 14-15, 19-20, and 27-28." As evidenced by the Declaration of Michael J. Winningham submitted herewith, it is clear that examples J through K do not exhibit a Young's modulus less than .9 MPa as currently required by newly amended claim 1. Likewise, the remainder of the Examples in Table I do not exhibit Young's moduli less than or equal to .9 MPa.

In view of the amendments to the claims, the rejection of claims 1-8, 10-21, 23-30, 36-39, and 41-42, under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Dillman et al (US 5,536,772) as evidenced by Chein is respectfully traversed. Claims 1, 18, and 31 all require a photoinitiator selected from the group consisting of ketones and phosphine oxides. Dillman does not disclose such photoinitiators, and as explained above, Chein does not disclose the Young's modulus currently required by these claims.

In view of the above amendments, the rejection of claims 1-5, 8-9, 12, 18, 21-22, 25, 36-39, and 43-44 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Lapin et al (US 5,891,930) is respectfully traversed. It is clear that none of the compositions in Lapin exhibit the Young's modulus required by the amended independent claims.

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims 1-5, 8-18, 21-47 and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant


Appl. No.: 10/087481
Amdt. Dated: 05/24/2004
Reply to Office Action of: 03/23/2004

such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Robert L. Carlson at 607-974-3502.

Respectfully submitted,

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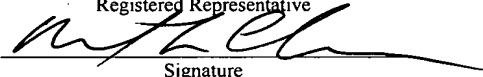
Date: May 24, 2004

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Date of Deposit

Robert L. Carlson

Name of applicant, assignee, or
Registered Representative



Signature

May 24, 2004

Date of Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: FEWKES EDWARD J, et al.

Serial No: 10/087481

Filing Date: 3/1/2002

Title: OPTICAL FIBER COATING
WITH PRESSURE SENSITIVE
ADHESIVE
CHARACTERISTICS

Group Art Unit: 1711

Examiner: McClendon, Sanza L.

DECLARATION

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DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

Michael J. Winningham declares as follows:

I am a research scientist employed by Corning Incorporated.

Since 1997, I have been active in the research and development of organic coatings for optical fiber applications.

I received my B.A. degree in Chemistry from Northwestern University in 1991. I received my M.S. degree in 1993 and my Ph.D. in 1997 in Chemistry from Cornell University.

I am an inventor on PCT Patent Publication No. WO00/66636, and was involved in making and testing the coatings compositions set forth in Table 1 thereof. With respect to the examples in Table 1 of PCT publication WO00/66636 referred to by the Examiner, the Young's modulus of Example J was measured to be 1.54 MPa. The Young's modulus of Example K in Table 1 was measured to be 1.17 MPa.

While the Example L coating was not tested for tensile properties, a very similar coating composition (64% STC3-149, 33% SR504, 3% Irgacure 1850) exhibited a Young's modulus of 1.88 Mpa. I can therefore say, based upon this information that,

while the Example L coating will likely exhibit a Young's modulus below 1.88MPa, I believe with confidence that the Example L composition in Table 1 will not exhibit a Young's modulus as low as .9 Mpa, as currently amended claim 1 requires.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: May 24, 2004



Michael J. Winningham